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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No: 39415-0005

Applicant(s): Sasa KRANJC *et al.*

Confirmation No.: 7627

Serial No.: 09/171,081

Group Art Unit: 1651

Filing Date: December 14, 1998

Examiner: Francisco C. PRATS

Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF CLAVULANIC ACID

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**  
**UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants herein respond to the Non-Final Office Action mailed February 20, 2004 (Paper No. 14) for the above-captioned patent application. While Applicants believe that no payment is necessary at this time, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or to charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 08-1641. Accordingly, entry of the amendment and consideration of the remarks that follow are requested.

Please amend the captioned application as set forth below.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.